

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
OMB-01 EB-08 TRSE-00 /073 W
-----030618 111894 /15

R 021112Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3771
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0709

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, EMIN, SU, SA
SUBJECT: YAMANI VISIT TO SUDAN

REF: CAIRO 3546 (NOTAL)

1. SAUDI MINISTER PETROLEUM AND MINERAL WEALTH YAMANI VISITED KHARTOUM BRIEFLY FEB. 26 JUST PRIOR TO TRIPARTITE SUMMIT. LOCAL PRESS REPORTED HE CARRIED MESSAGE FROM CROWN PRINCE FAHD WHICH HE DELIVERED TO NIMEIRI. ACCORDING SUNA, MESSAGE COMES WITHIN FRAMEWORK NIMEIRI'S CONSULTATIONS CONCERNING JOINT COOPERATION, SAFETY AND SECURITY OF AREA. POSSIBLE, THEREFORE, THAT TIMING YAMANI VISIT RELATED TO SUMMIT AS SUGGESTED BY CAIRO PAPERS (REFTEL).

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2. HOWEVER, APPEARS PRINCIPAL REASON FOR VISIT WAS GOS REQUEST FOR URGENT PETROLEUM SUPPLY ASSISTANCE FROM SAG. SUPPLY PROBLEMS WITH AVIATION FUEL, GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL (USED EXTENSIVELY ON LARGE FARMS AT PRESENT HARVEST SEASON) ARE BECOMING WORSE WITH LITTLE HOPE FOR QUICK SOLUTIONS. RELIABLE SOURCE TOLD AMBASSADOR GOS HAD REQUESTED SAG TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY SUPPLIES REFINED PRODUCTS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO HELP PAY FOR THEM DURING

RECENT VISIT OF PRIMIN BAKR TO RIYADH. YANAMI'S VISIT REPRESENTED FOLLOW-UP, BUT SAG WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE ABLE DO ALL GOS HAD ASKED. SEPARATE SOURCE TOLD AMBASSADOR RAILWAY CURRENTLY DELIVERING 500 TONS PRODUCT DAILY WHEREAS DEMAND SHOULD ONLY BE IN 200 TON/DAILY RANGE. SOURCE THOUGHT BLACK MARKET AND PANIC BUYING RESPONSIBLE.

3. WHILE HERE YAMANI ALSO PARTICIPATED IN MEETINGS OF JOINT SUDAN-SAUDI COMPANY WHICH WILL EXPLOIT MINERAL WEALTH OF RED SEA. IN THAT CONNECTION, YAMANI WAS OPTIMISTIC AND HE WAS REPORTED BY LOCAL PRESS AS SAYING ADDITIONAL PROMISING AREAS HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED.

4. COMMENT: AS SUDANESE ECONOMY AND DEVELOPMENT MOVE FORWARD, DEMAND FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS HAS BEGUN RAPID CLIMB. NAGGING PROBLEMS WITH PORT SUDAN-KHARTOUM PIPELINE HAVE DELAYED ITS OPENING, AND SUDAN RAILWAYS CONTINUES EXPERIENCE MANY PROBLEMS THUS, EVEN IF SAG PROVIDES EMERGENCY SUPPLIES, NOT CLEAR HOW THIS WILL SOLVE TRANSPORTATION BOTTLENECKS. NEVERTHELESS, GOS, NOT SURPRISINGLY, WILL APPRECIATE WHATEVER OIL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SAUDIS CAN PROVIDE, PARTICULARLY GIVEN APPARENT LACK OF SUCCESS IN OBTAINING ANY RELIEF FROM IRAQ OR IRAN, SUDAN'S TRADITIONAL SUPPLIERS OF CRUDE, OR FROM KUWAIT, WHICH PRESENTLY SUPPLIES REFINED PRODUCTS TO SUDAN. GIVEN TRADITIONAL OPEC STATES RELUCTANCE DIRECTLY LINK OIL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, WE WONDER WHETHER SAG IS AS FORTHCOMING AS WE HAVE BEEN TOLD AND WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER ADDITIONAL INFO EMBASSY JIDDA CAN PROVIDE. BREWER

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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